

In the Claims

Please re-write claims 9, 10, 12, 14, 18, 22 and 28 as follows:

A2 9. (Amended once) The method of Claim 6, further wherein the admixture of the shielding material and the polymer/waste material admixture is formed into a geometric shape having a volume per unit surface area wherein the alpha particle radiation has less surface area through which to leave the admixture.

SUB D1 10. (Amended once) The method of Claim 9, wherein the geometric shape is selected from a spherical shape or a cubic shape.

A3 12. (Amended once) A method of reducing alpha particle radiation from emitting from radioactive material-containing waste material comprising:  
forming the waste material into a geometric shape having a volume per unit surface area, wherein the waste material has a smaller surface area thereby reducing the emission of alpha particle radiation from the waste material.

A4 14. (Amended Once) The method of Claim 12, wherein the geometric shape is selected from a spherical shape or a cubic shape.

A5 18. (Amended Once) The method of Claim 15, wherein, subsequent to the admixing of the shielding material, a polymer material is admixed with the waste material to encapsulate the radioactive material within the polymer wherein the polymer prevents alpha particle radiation from passing through the polymer.

Ab 22. (Amended Once) A method for preventing alpha particle radiation from being emitted from radioactive material-containing waste material into an environment comprising:

admixing a polymer with the waste material to form a first admixture, wherein the polymer encapsulates the radioactive material and prevents alpha particle radiation from passing through the polymer;

admixing the first admixture with a shielding material to form a second admixture, wherein the first admixture is incorporated within the second admixture; and

forming the second admixture into a geometric shape having a volume per unit surface area wherein the alpha particle radiation has less surface area through which to leave the second admixture.

28. (Amended Once) The method of Claim 22, wherein the geometric shape is selected from a spherical shape or a cubic shape.

#### REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested. Claims 1-29 are rejected. Claims 9,10,12,14,18, 22 and 28 are amended. Support for the amendments is provided throughout the specification. No new matter is introduced through these claim amendments. The rejections stated in the Office Action will now be addressed in their order of appearance.

#### Response to Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 9, 10 and 12-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which